

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 08535 081704Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-10 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-14

USIA-04 MC-02 ACDA-10 DRC-01 /070 W

----- 041140

R 081558Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2277

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY QUITO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, CI, PE

SUBJECT: JETS FOR CHILE

1. ASSOCIATED PRESS DESPATCH FROM SANTIAGO REPORTING THAT CHILE IS BUYING 18 F5'E'S AND 36 A-37B'S RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE COVERAGE IN TODAY'S LIMA PRESS.

2. COVERAGE IS MOST PROMINENT IN GOVERNMENT (SINAMOS) CONTROLLED CORREO, WHICH TREATS THE STORY IN ITS USUALLY, ANTI-AMERICAN FASHION. CORREO COLUMNIST COMMENTS THAT U.S. IS NOT INTERESTED IN CHILEAN HUNGER BUT IN ARMAMENT SALES. COLUMNIST CONCLUDES THAT PRESIDENT FORD IS TURNING OUT TO BE EVEN MORE IMPERIAL-ISTIC THAN HIS PREDECESSORS, AS EVIDENCED BY AMERICAN THREATS AGAINST THIRD WORLD AND SALES OF ARMS FOR CHILE.

3. COMMENT: PERU IS PURCHASING A-37B'S AND ADDING MIRAGES TO ITS INVENTORY. IT HAS ALSO BEEN LOOKING INTO DESIRABILITY OF BUYING F5E'S, MIG'S AND BRITISH HARRIERS. FURTHERMORE, GOP IS PERFECTLY AWARE OF AND, BY AND LARGE, RECONCILED TO CHILEAN F-5 PURCHASES.

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4. GIVEN THE LEFTIST, ANTI-AMERICAN BIAS OF PERU'S REORGANIZED

NEWSPAPERS, WE CAN EXPECT PERUVIAN EDITORIALISTS TO VENT THEIR
SPLEEN ON THE UNITED STATES FOR CHILEAN ARMS PURCHASES. THE
NEWSPAPERS WILL PROBABLY ATTRIBUTE THE MOST SINISTER OF MOTIVES
TO THE CHILEAN JUNTA FOR BUYING ARMS WHEN THEY SHOULD BE FACING
UP TO CHILE'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. NATURALLY, THE PRO-GOP PRESS
WILL IGNORE PERUVIAN ARMS BUYING.
DEAN

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